

THE DISPATCH FOUNDED IN 1826. THE TIMES FOUNDED 1824.

WHOLE NUMBER 18,455.

RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1910.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY—Fair.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

FIREMEN'S FUND ACT IS INVALID

Supreme Court Declares Pension Bill Unconstitutional.

JUDGE GRINNAN IS SUSTAINED

Appeal Refused From Order Restraining Insurance Commissioner From Collecting Tax From Insurance Companies for Benefit of Disabled Fire-Fighters.

What is known as the "firemen's fund act" providing for the collection of a tax from fire insurance companies to form a fund for the relief of aged and disabled members of fire companies was yesterday declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of Appeals.

COMPANIES TAXED

The bill creating the firemen's fund was passed by the Legislature of 1908. It provides that fire insurance companies doing business in cities and towns where there are fire-fighting organizations which qualify as beneficiaries under the further terms of the act, shall pay a tax of 1 per cent on their gross premiums for the maintenance of a fund to aid disabled firemen.

ARGUMENT ADVANCED

One of the claims made was that the bill was in violation of section 23 of the constitution of Virginia, which provides that no law shall embrace more than one object, which shall be expressed in the title, whereas there is a tax here involved on insurance companies, in addition to providing for a relief fund.

NOT OWNED BY STATE

Apparently the very strongest point made in the constitution provision was that there shall be no appropriation to charitable institutions not owned or controlled by the State.

EYEBALLS ARE FOUND

Believed to Have Belonged to Youth Who Ran Away From Home, Pensacola, Fla., November 30.—A couple of eyeballs which were picked up today along with the remains of a tramp who was killed by a Louisville and Nashville Railroad train, were positively identified as the eyeballs of a Pensacola youth who left his home not many weeks ago to see the world.

WILSON INDORSES HARMON

Says Democrats Will Do Well to Elect Him President. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Louisville, Ky., November 30.—"If the people of the United States elect Governor Harmon president, they will make no mistake," said Woodrow Wilson, Governor-elect of New Jersey, tonight, when discussing the probabilities of 1912.

ANOTHER REFORM

Hitchcock Expects to Save Thousands of Dollars to Government. Washington, D. C., November 30.—Thousands of dollars annually will be saved and the efficiency of the corps of special agents and inspectors of the Post-Office Department will be increased by a reorganization which will be proposed by Postmaster-General Hitchcock.

Then and Now

"The earth under us seemed almost sacred. When the pedometer registered fourteen and a half miles we camped and calmly went to sleep, feeling that we were turning on the earth's axis."

COOK, IMPOSTOR, SELF-CONFESSED

Admits He Does Not Know if He Reached North Pole. MAKES PLEA OF NEAR-INSANITY

In Startling Statement He Says Discovery No Longer Means Anything to Him, but He Would Regain Confidence of his Fellow-men.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) New York, November 30.—Dr. Frederick A. Cook is not sure that he reached the North Pole. He has said so frequently, and adds that his previous positive statements on the "discovery" were the result of near-insanity, and that he wants to confess and be esteemed again by his fellow-countrymen. The confession is to be published shortly as his "Own Story" in Hampton's Magazine, which published Peary's "Own Story." Dr. Cook begins:

"Did I get to the North Pole? Perhaps I made a mistake in thinking I did. Perhaps I did not make a mistake. After mature thought, I confess I do not know absolutely whether I reached the Pole or not. This may appear an amazing statement, but I am willing to startle the world if by so doing I can get an opportunity to present my case. By my case I mean not my case as a geographical discoverer, but my case as a man. Much as the attainment of the North Pole meant to me, the sympathy and confidence of my fellow-men mean more."

MISS LENEVE NOT FOUND

If She Is on Liner Maestle Her Disappearance Is Perfect. New York, November 30.—If Ethel Leneve, Dr. Clippen's erstwhile companion, is aboard the steamer Maestle, which anchored off quarantine this night, she is expected to be discovered when she came to Canada in boy's clothes aboard the Montrose. Her name does not appear on the passenger list, but she is believed to be the officer of the ship said to-night, had been recognized.

PAWNS HIS COFFIN

Forced to Step by the High Cost of Living. Atlanta, Ga., November 30.—The high cost of living to-day forced M. L. Bremen to pawn his coffin. Some time ago because he could "pick it up at a bargain," to-day, however, he needed some money, and not having anything to pawn, he pawned his coffin for a pawnshop. When he received his ticket and money Bremen announced that he probably would redeem his pledge.

CONTRIBUTE \$264,000

Racing Associations Give Money to Defeat Legislation. New York, November 30.—Eight racing associations, seeking to defeat the bill authorizing the collection of a tax of \$264,000 to the Jockey Club for fiscal expenses, according to M. Lynn Brown, counsel of the legislative committee, during the session of the committee to-day Mr. Bruce ran over the various contributions which have been admitted. In testimony, and used them as a basis for his statement.

LEAPS IN FRONT OF TRAIN

Thomas Lawson's Confidential Secretary Commits Suicide. Boston, Mass., November 30.—John F. Donahoe, of Lynn, for twelve years a confidential clerk in the employ of Thomas B. Lawson, the financier, committed suicide to-day by jumping in front of an electric train of the Boston Elevated Street Railway in the Washington Street tunnel. The cause of the act is unknown.

NO SHAVE OR HAIR CUT

Elbert Merilda Lived Ninety Years Without Ever Having Shaved or Cut His Hair. Nashua, N. H., November 30.—Elbert Merilda, who lived his ninety years without ever having shaved or cut his hair, died at his home here to-day. He was one of the oldest settlers of Brown county. In his little log house are a number of rattlesnakes, which he was in the habit of killing as long as he lived.

AMAZING CHANGES IN BRITISH FIGHT

Election Campaign, Now Under Way, One of Surprises.

HOUSE OF LORDS CEASES TO EXIST

Lord Rosebery Declares It Has Surrendered Its Powers to the Nation in a Death-Bed Repentance—Conservatives Stunned by Balfour's Tactics.

London, November 30.—The present election campaign is one of amazing changes. Lord Lansdowne's unexpected presentation of a scheme for the reform of the House of Lords has been surpassed in suddenness by Mr. Balfour's throwing over tariff reform as an issue of the election. Lord Rosebery, in a speech to-day at Manchester, said:

"The House of Lords has ceased to exist; it has surrendered its powers to the nation. This is a fact of enormous importance."

He admitted that it was death-bed repentance, but he contended that death-bed repentance, if sincere, was valid and valuable.

Mr. Balfour's adoption of the referendum is generally attributed to pressure from an influential section of Unionist free traders, led by Lord Cromer, although it is acclaimed by the bulk of the Unionist party, once their surprise is over, as a master stroke of vital importance.

The Liberals characterized his attitude as a direct surrender and opportunism. The Liberal leaders, who were surprised equally as much as the Conservatives, have not yet had time to adjust themselves to the changed conditions.

CITY OF TAMPA SUED

Labor Assembly Wants Damages for Closing of Temple. Tampa, Fla., November 30.—Suit was filed against the City of Tampa, Florida, by trustees of the Central Trades and Labor Assembly for \$20,000 damages. It is alleged that the assembly being held in the hall of the Central Trades and Labor Assembly for a period of three weeks during the closing of the temple to prevent gatherings, and by damaging the furniture and the loss of valuable papers.

PLAYS HIGH CARD

Defense Scores Heavily in Senatorial Trial. Yazoo City, Miss., November 30.—The defense in the trial of L. C. Dulaney, charged with bringing a member of the Mississippi Senate to support United States Senator Leroy Percy during the recent senatorial contest, played one of its best cards to-day. It came with the identification of banknotes purporting to be the actual money State Senator Theodore Bilbo alleged was paid him by Dulaney according to witnesses, several of the notes were issued subsequent to the date Senator Bilbo asserts the last instalment of bribe money was paid.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

NO WORD YET FROM JEANNETTE BROWN

Mother and Brother Come From New York and Urge More Vigorous Search. With the Police Department without any definite information, and with friends of the family still advancing numerous theories, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Jeannette Brown, who left her home Monday morning, becomes more involved as the days go by. As it first appeared, the case was simply one of suicide or disappearance. Now other rumors are being circulated.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

AMAZING CHANGES IN BRITISH FIGHT

Election Campaign, Now Under Way, One of Surprises.

HOUSE OF LORDS CEASES TO EXIST

Lord Rosebery Declares It Has Surrendered Its Powers to the Nation in a Death-Bed Repentance—Conservatives Stunned by Balfour's Tactics.

London, November 30.—The present election campaign is one of amazing changes. Lord Lansdowne's unexpected presentation of a scheme for the reform of the House of Lords has been surpassed in suddenness by Mr. Balfour's throwing over tariff reform as an issue of the election. Lord Rosebery, in a speech to-day at Manchester, said:

"The House of Lords has ceased to exist; it has surrendered its powers to the nation. This is a fact of enormous importance."

He admitted that it was death-bed repentance, but he contended that death-bed repentance, if sincere, was valid and valuable.

Mr. Balfour's adoption of the referendum is generally attributed to pressure from an influential section of Unionist free traders, led by Lord Cromer, although it is acclaimed by the bulk of the Unionist party, once their surprise is over, as a master stroke of vital importance.

The Liberals characterized his attitude as a direct surrender and opportunism. The Liberal leaders, who were surprised equally as much as the Conservatives, have not yet had time to adjust themselves to the changed conditions.

CITY OF TAMPA SUED

Labor Assembly Wants Damages for Closing of Temple. Tampa, Fla., November 30.—Suit was filed against the City of Tampa, Florida, by trustees of the Central Trades and Labor Assembly for \$20,000 damages. It is alleged that the assembly being held in the hall of the Central Trades and Labor Assembly for a period of three weeks during the closing of the temple to prevent gatherings, and by damaging the furniture and the loss of valuable papers.

PLAYS HIGH CARD

Defense Scores Heavily in Senatorial Trial. Yazoo City, Miss., November 30.—The defense in the trial of L. C. Dulaney, charged with bringing a member of the Mississippi Senate to support United States Senator Leroy Percy during the recent senatorial contest, played one of its best cards to-day. It came with the identification of banknotes purporting to be the actual money State Senator Theodore Bilbo alleged was paid him by Dulaney according to witnesses, several of the notes were issued subsequent to the date Senator Bilbo asserts the last instalment of bribe money was paid.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

NO WORD YET FROM JEANNETTE BROWN

Mother and Brother Come From New York and Urge More Vigorous Search. With the Police Department without any definite information, and with friends of the family still advancing numerous theories, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Jeannette Brown, who left her home Monday morning, becomes more involved as the days go by. As it first appeared, the case was simply one of suicide or disappearance. Now other rumors are being circulated.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

Figures in the British Crisis



A formidable factor in the political upheaval in England is Balfour, the leader of the opposition to the government. Should the Conservatives win he will again become Premier, succeeding Asquith. Rosebery conducts the fight for the Unionists, and Lord Lansdowne is the leader in the upper house of Parliament.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

NO WORD YET FROM JEANNETTE BROWN

Mother and Brother Come From New York and Urge More Vigorous Search. With the Police Department without any definite information, and with friends of the family still advancing numerous theories, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Jeannette Brown, who left her home Monday morning, becomes more involved as the days go by. As it first appeared, the case was simply one of suicide or disappearance. Now other rumors are being circulated.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

NO WORD YET FROM JEANNETTE BROWN

Mother and Brother Come From New York and Urge More Vigorous Search. With the Police Department without any definite information, and with friends of the family still advancing numerous theories, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Jeannette Brown, who left her home Monday morning, becomes more involved as the days go by. As it first appeared, the case was simply one of suicide or disappearance. Now other rumors are being circulated.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

Nothing But Circumstantial Evidence Against Accused Girl Remains. Cambridge, Mass., November 30.—Two decisions in favor of the defense in the trial of Hattie Le Blanc, charged with the murder of Clarence F. Glover, and the accusation by the defendant's counsel that Mrs. Lillian M. Glover, the widow, had the motive, inclination and opportunity to shoot her husband, were the developments in the case to-day.

NO WORD YET FROM JEANNETTE BROWN

Mother and Brother Come From New York and Urge More Vigorous Search. With the Police Department without any definite information, and with friends of the family still advancing numerous theories, the mystery surrounding the disappearance of Mrs. Jeannette Brown, who left her home Monday morning, becomes more involved as the days go by. As it first appeared, the case was simply one of suicide or disappearance. Now other rumors are being circulated.

SEEKING TO TURN ATTACK ON WIDOW

Defense Intimates That Mrs. Glover May Have Killed Her Husband. TESTIMONY IS ADMITTED

SKYSCRAPER FOR FIRST NATIONAL AND RAILROADS

Sale of Chamber's Site Will Keep C. & O. Offices in Richmond. PLANS AWAIT ACTION TO-DAY

Syndicate Prepared to Buy Property and Erect New Structure for Chamber, C. & O. R. F. & P. and Bank—Business People Indorse Move and Urge Sale.

If a proposition to be made this afternoon to stockholders and members of the Chamber of Commerce to accept a skyscraper office building will shortly be acted at the southwest corner of Ninth and Main Streets, as the permanent home of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company, the Chamber of Commerce and the First National Bank. The structure will be not less than fifteen and not more than twenty stories high, and will be known as the First National Bank Building.

Joint Ownership. Under the plan proposed, the building will be owned jointly by the two railroad companies and the bank. Besides ample offices for the Chamber of Commerce, it is probable that there will be some extra space for rent. From preliminary plans it is believed that the Chesapeake and Ohio will need ten or twelve floors, especially arranged for its convenience. It is asserted that had the bank alone been interested it would probably not have gone into the enterprise, preferring rather to rebuild on its old site. But interests closely identified with the commercial progress of Richmond have realized that it will be of great advantage to the city to have provided a modern fireproof office building to be erected by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway under a ten-year lease, or under joint ownership, or both, not only to accommodate the present needs, but to provide for future growth.

Set Removal Rumors at Rest. It is believed that such growth is certain to follow the development of the system now in progress, and under the plan of joint ownership, if the Chamber consents to the sale of its site, annual rumors of the removal of the Chesapeake and Ohio office to the city, or some other point will be set at rest. The quarters are in rented building, and are much overcrowded, having spread into several surrounding establishments.

Secretary R. A. Dunlop has issued a formal order for a general meeting of the active resident members, officers and directors of the Chamber, to be held in its assembly hall this afternoon at 4 o'clock, to consider the advisability of selling the present building and the ground upon which it is located, and to take action on a general meeting of the active resident members, officers and directors held on May 5 last. A similar call has been issued for a meeting of the stockholders of the Chamber for 5 o'clock in the same place, to take action on the same matter.

Ident Location. With the erection of newer and more modern office buildings it had come to be realized that the Chamber of Commerce building, once the largest and handsomest in Richmond, was out of date; that many of its offices are dark and without modern conveniences and appliances, the Chamber having lost many tenants to its progressive neighbor, the Mutual Assurance Society Building. The corner is valuable in the city, and for months tentative plans have been in the air for the creation of a modern fireproof structure. At first it was suggested that, though erected by the Chamber of Commerce, it should retain the name of Chamber of Commerce Building.

Provide Home for Railroads. Members of the Chamber and aggressive business men generally have for a long time called for the great importance to Richmond of having an actual holding of the Chesapeake and Ohio general offices here, but also of setting at rest the constantly recurring rumors of removal spread abroad by Cincinnati and other ambitious cities along its line. A half dozen sites have been suggested, and many plans have been drawn by persons seeking to interest the Chesapeake and Ohio in a long-term lease of property and well arranged quarters. Questions of the road, the spreading of the station, and the relations of the new Corporation Commission had first to be settled, and plan after plan has come to naught. Meanwhile the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad has been busy with the construction of the new Washington station, the North and the South, and its outgrowth in Bed Street Station, renting overflow rooms in the Mayo Building, at Seventh and Main Streets.

Recently an accident caused by excavations next door damaged the base of the First National Bank, one of the oldest and strongest financial institutions in the entire South, the accident serving to call attention of the bank to its need for more ample and better arranged facilities.

Chamber Willing to Sell. Out of these conditions has grown the proposition which will be presented to the Chamber of Commerce to-day. The parties at interest—the bank and the two railroad companies—propose to purchase the site of Chesapeake and Ohio, and its site, for something less than a quarter of a million dollars, an unconfirmed rumor has it that the price will be \$225,000.

The chamber by its former action has declared its willingness to sell at a fair price. At that time, however,

(Continued on Eleventh Page.)